

To: Singer, Joshua[Singer.Joshua@epa.gov]; Smith, Molly[Smith.Molly@epa.gov]; Marshall, Sarah[marshall.sarah@epa.gov]
From: Alex Ruppenthal
Sent: Fri 6/23/2017 10:08:10 PM
Subject: New S.H. Bell manganese data / "Chicago Tonight" story

Dear EPA staff,

Hi, my name is Alex Ruppenthal, and I cover environmental issues for the website of "Chicago Tonight" at WTTW.

I'm working on a story to update the situation at S.H. Bell's facility in Chicago, now that the company and the EPA have collected several months of air monitoring data. According to data published online by the EPA, along with data shared by S.H. Bell with a source of mine from the Natural Resources Defense Council, concentrations of ambient manganese near S.H. Bell averaged 0.23 and 0.21 milligrams per cub liter during March and April, respectively. Both averages are more than four times the EPA's reference concentration for manganese of 0.05 milligrams per cubic liter.

NRDC says the new data raises concerns about the health of nearby residents, many of them children. An NRDC attorney said the situation now represents an "imminent and substantial endangerment," the EPA's requirement for initiating legal action against violators under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act.

I'm hoping to connect with someone from the EPA on Monday to ask some questions for our story. Would someone from the agency be available then to talk with me over the phone?

We are planning to publish the story on our website Monday afternoon.

Please feel free to call me at 773-509-5623, my number at WTTW.

Thank you in advance for your help, and I look forward to hearing from you.

Best regards,

Alex Ruppenthal

Alex Ruppenthal | Digital Reporter, *Chicago Tonight*

wtw

5400 N St Louis Ave | Chicago IL 60625

t: 773.509.5623

e: aruppenthal@wtw.com

[Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#)